

PATENT
450101-03178**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1 – 7. (Canceled)

8. (New) A data-providing apparatus attached to a plurality of user apparatuses over a network, said data-providing apparatus comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receive data transmitted from one or more of said user apparatus;

a user contents control unit configured to control recording of the data received by the receiving unit into a recording area corresponding to each user apparatus;

a shared contents control unit configured to control the recorded contents set to be shared by a user who transmits contents; and

a data-supplying unit configured to supply data set to be shared to the user apparatus in response to a demand made by the user apparatus.

9. (New) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising thumbnail-generating means for generating a thumbnail corresponding to the data received by the receiving unit, and thumbnail-transmitting means for transmitting the thumbnail to a second data-processing apparatus.

PATENT
450101-03178

10. (New) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said shared contents control unit further determines whether the data should be paid for its use, when the data is supplied to a second data-processing apparatus.

11. (New) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said shared contents control unit further determines a fee for the data when the data is supplied to a second data-processing apparatus.

12. (New) The data-providing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said fee is an amount that the data-processing apparatus needs to pay to the second data-processing apparatus when the data is supplied to the second data-processing apparatus.

13. (New) A data-providing method, said data-providing method comprising the steps of:

receiving data transmitted from a user apparatus;

controlling a recording of the data received in the receiving step into a recording area corresponding to one of a plurality of user apparatuses;

controlling recorded contents set to be shared by a user who transmits contents;

and

supplying a data set to be shared to said user apparatus in response to a demand by said user apparatus.

PATENT
450101-03178

14. (New) A program-storing medium which stores a computer-readable program,
the program performs the steps of:

receiving data transmitted from a user apparatus;

controlling a recording of the data received in the receiving step into a recording
area corresponding to one of a plurality of user apparatuses;

controlling recorded contents set to be shared by a user who transmits said
contents; and

supplying a data set to be shared to said user apparatus in response to a demand
by said user apparatus.